

Please cancel claims 2 and 8.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 7, 9, and 22 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A package comprising:

a product; and

one or more packaging materials enclosing the product, wherein an effective amount of authenticating agent is incorporated into the one or more packaging materials and wherein the authenticating agent is a substance that forms detectable free radicals upon irradiation.

3. (Amended) The package of claim 1, wherein the one or more packaging materials comprises a polymeric packaging film, said authenticating agent being incorporated in said film.

7. (Twice Amended) A method of making a package, comprising:

incorporating an authenticating agent into a packaging material as an in situ product marker; and

forming a package comprising the the packaging material, wherein the authenticating agent is a substance that forms detectable free radicals when exposed to ionizing radiation, said authenticating agent being present in a manner such that the free radicals provide a characteristic spectral response when subjected to a spectroscopic analysis capable of detecting free radicals in order to allow authentication of the package from said spectral response.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the packaging material comprises a polymeric packaging film, and wherein the authenticating agent is incorporated into said film.

22. (Amended) A method of authenticating a package comprising:

providing a package incorporating a given amount of one or more authenticating agents that upon exposure to a given effective dosage of radiation is capable of forming detectable free radicals having a characteristic spectral response;